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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Trade

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Sixty-second session
Geneva, 28 April to 1 May 2014
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations *

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 28 April.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Matters of interest since the last session
3. Revision of UNECE standards
4. Explanatory brochure and standard for persimmons
5. Coordination of work with other international organizations
6. Promotion and capacity-building
7. Future work
8. Other business

* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations should complete the registration form, downloadable from www.unece.org/trade/agr/welcome.htm and transmit it to the secretariat either by e-mail (subashini.narasimhan@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917-06-29). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves, with a valid identification card/passport, at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny entrance to obtain a security badge to enter the Palais (in case of a problem, please call 022 917-15-14). Documents for the meeting and information for Geneva visitors are also available on the website.

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9. Election of officers

10. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The delegations will adopt the agenda.

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/1)

2. Matters of interest since the last session

(a) UNECE and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will inform the delegates about the outcome of the November 2013 session of the Working Party and of other decisions by the UNECE governing bodies which might have an impact on the work of the Specialized Section.

Documentation: Report of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2013/2)

(b) Other organizations

Representatives of other organizations and country delegations will inform the Specialized Section about activities taking place in their agencies that are of relevance to the work of the Section.

3. Revision of UNECE standards

(a) Quince

The Specialized Section will review the text of the Standard for Quince which was approved in 2013 by the Working Party as a recommendation for a one-year trial period. The delegations are asked to provide the secretariat with their corrections, amendments and comments.

Documentation: Standard for Quince (FFV-62)

(b) Apples, pears and plums

The Specialized Section will discuss the provisions on sizing in the standards for apples, pears and plums.

The Specialized Section will also discuss the List of Varieties in the Standard for Apples.

Documentation: Standard for Apples (FFV-50)
Standard for Pears (FFV-51)
Standard for Plums (FFV-29)
Proposals on sizing (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/3)
List of Varieties (INF.1, Informal document)
WAPO position on mutants (INF.2, Informal document)

(c) Sweet chestnuts

The Specialized Section will revisit the text of the standard reviewed at the May 2013 session. The Working Group composed of the delegations of France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland will present a table on tolerances, for each of the quality classes, for defects such as presence of insects, excreta, mould and sprouting.

Documentation: Standard for Sweet Chestnuts (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/4)

(d) Citrus fruit

The Specialized Section will revisit marking provisions in the standard to address concerns raised at the May 2013 session by the delegations of South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Documentation: Marking provisions, proposal by South Africa (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/5)

Lineage in the mandarin group, note by the United Kingdom (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/6)

(e) Lambs lettuce

The Specialized Section will review the text of the Standard for Lambs Lettuce which was approved in 2013 by the Working Party as a recommendation for a one-year trial period. The delegations are asked to provide the secretariat with their corrections, amendments and comments.

Documentation: Standard for Lambs Lettuce (FFV-60)

(f) Watermelons

The delegations will review provisions related to "Extra" Class introduced into the standard at the 2013 session. The Specialized Section will consider the proposal by Malaysia to increase to 10° the Brix level for watermelons from the 8° currently in the standard.

Documentation: Standard for Watermelons (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/7)

(g) Early and ware potatoes

The Specialized Section will review the provisions on tolerances proposed at the 2013 session.

Documentation: Standard for Early and Ware Potatoes (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/8)

(h) Tomatoes

The delegations will review provisions on commercial types of tomatoes.

Documentation: Standard for Tomatoes (FFV-36)

(i) Witloof chicory

The Specialized Section will review the provisions on classes I and II (frost damage, chilling injury and bruising) proposed at the 2013 session.

Documentation: Standard for Witloof Chicory (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/9)

(j) Fresh figs

The delegations will consider changes to the standard following the OECD work on the explanatory brochure for figs.

Documentation: Standard for Fresh Figs (FFV-17)

(k) Other standards

The Specialized Section will align the wording of the "Definition of produce" section in the UNECE Standard for Chanterelles with that of the corresponding section in the Codex standard. Depending on the requests from countries, the Specialized Section may wish to consider other standards.

The Specialized Section will introduce linguistic changes to the Standard Layout in French.

Documentation: Standard for Chanterelles (FFV-55)

4. Explanatory brochure and standard for persimmons

The Specialized Section will review the standard and the first draft of the brochure for persimmons on the basis of recommendations to be prepared by the delegations of Germany, Israel, Italy, South Africa, Spain and Tajikistan.

Documentation: Standard for Persimmons (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/10)
Draft brochure (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/GE.1/2014/11)
Draft brochure (PowerPoint presentation)

5. Coordination of work with other international organizations

At its 2013 session, the Specialized Section took initiatives to strengthen cooperation with Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. The delegations may wish to review the impact of those initiatives and to decide on further action.

Those international organizations present and wishing to do so, will be invited to make proposals for cooperation.

The Specialized Section may wish to discuss the draft revision of the OECD sampling plan for FFV.

6. Promotion and capacity-building

The delegations and the secretariat will exchange information about their promotional and capacity-building activities.

7. Future work

The Specialized Section will discuss its future work.

8. Other business

The delegations will revisit the Glossary of terms used in UNECE standards on fresh fruits and vegetables, which was returned to the Specialized Section by the Working Party for further work.

Any other issues of interest for the work of the Specialized Section can be discussed under this agenda item.

Documentation: Glossary of terms (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.7/2014/12)

9. Election of officers

The Specialized Section will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. At its sixtieth session, it elected Ms. Ulrike Bickelmann (Germany) as Chair and Ms. Kristina Mattsson (Sweden) as Vice-Chair.

10. Adoption of the report

The Specialized Section will adopt the report of the session.

III. Tentative timetable

Monday, 28 April	10:00 - 13:00	Working Group meetings
	15:00 - 18:00	Items 1, 2, 3
Tuesday, 29 April	10:00 - 13:00	Items 3, 4
	15:00 - 18:00	Items 4, 5
Wednesday, 30 April	10:00 - 13:00	Item 5, 6
	15:00 - 18:00	Items 7, 8, 9
Thursday, 1 May	10:00 - 13:00	Item 10